Request of Andhra Pradesh Government for Funds for Rural Development schemes

1932. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to release an amount of Rs. 200 crores under various schemes of rural development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has considered sanctioning any amount in this regard due to severe drought conditions prevailing in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged for release of an amount of Rs. 252.63 crores under various Schemes of Rural Development in the Memorandum submitted to Government of India. Out of this, Rs. 70.63 crores is for Social Security and Rs. 182.00 crores is for wage employment.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Agriculture has deputed a Central Team of Officers for visiting the drought affected areas of the State and submitting a Report for facilitating a decision on the quantum of assistance to be provided. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Rural Development has recommended to the Department of Food & Consumer Affairs on 6th August 2001 for release of 3 lakh tonnes of rice to Andhra Pradesh under the Food for Work Programme.

Audit of Department of Wasteland

1933. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the Wasteland Department was created;

(b) whether the Principal Director of Audit, Economic and Service Ministries, New Delhi have carried out the audit;

(c) if so, the period upto which the audit has been carried out;